



THE

SOUTHERN CROSS

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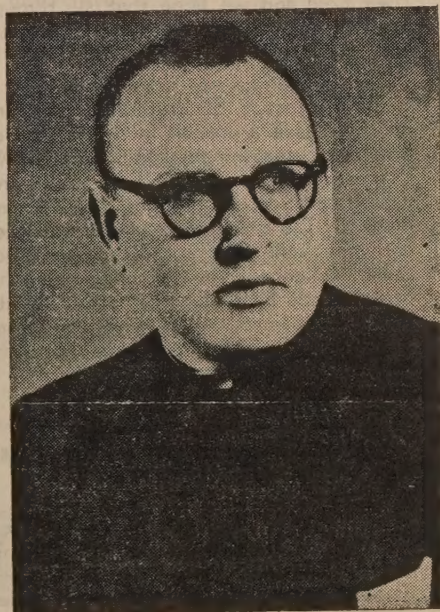
THE LUTHERAN EVANGELISM MISSION

The Lutheran Evangelism Mission which is now underway in the U.S.A. and Canada will come to our Colony in the month of August.

Coming with Dr. Herman L. Gilbert to direct the Mission is the Rev. Clifton M. Weihe, Associate Director of Evangelism of the U.L.C.A. His activities are planned to coincide with the Lutheran Worker's Conference to be held in Ebenezer Church from August 14 - 16.

Pastor Weihe was born in Portville, Iowa and received his education at Luther College and Mt. Airy Seminary in Philadelphia. Previous to his present position he served as Asst. - Pastor, St. John's, Allentown, Pa. and was also Director of Public School Music in Lanberton, Minnesota.

We hope that everyone who is charged with the vast work of planning etc. for this important event will give abundantly of their time and energies. This is a tremendous responsibility and may God guide and help everyone.



THE REV. CLIFTON M. WEIHE



To those who are not directly involved there is also a responsibility. We must prepare our hearts and souls for the impact of a program that might well be the biggest thing that has ever come to our Church and something that will inspire the workers of our Church for all time. Let us all pray for the success of this Mission.

EVANGELISM

CHRIST is the sole and sufficient motive for active participation in evangelism. Our authority resides in Him. "As my Father has sent me, even so send I you."

THE BERBICE RIVER PARISH

PASTOR H. C. MAGALEE

MT. OLIVET, Kwakwani — Layreader Terrence Abrams. On the Festival of the Holy Trinity, thirteen candidates were presented for Confirmation. They were Messrs Dordridge McFarlane, Desmond Morian, Cedric Morian, Vincent Pollard, Arnold Thom, William Wishart, Alvaro Sarmiento, Percival Jeffers, Lynton Sears, Irving Waide, Mesdames Henrietta Mentore, Letitia Welsh and Miss Dorothy Douglas. It was thrilling to hear these men and women declare their allegiance to Christ their Lord and we hope that all through their lives they will remain loyal and faithful to Him.

On Pentecost Sunday Mr. Abrams and his choir gave a concert in the Club Hall and every seat was taken. Dr. J. W. Draper presided and Mrs. N. J. Hurley presented certificates for the last Music Examination. The artistes executed their pieces with great skill and won the appreciation of their audience. The offering on this occasion was \$40 which has been paid into the Organ Fund. We sincerely thank everyone who gave of their time and talent towards this project.

A beautiful white altar cloth was presented by the ladies of the River-side Chapel. It was made by Miss Hernina Bell.

Mt. Olivet School has recently started a Parent-teacher's Association and the following are the office bearers — Mr. H. Harper, president; Mr. C. Jacob, Vice-president; Mrs. M. O'Geer, Secretary; Miss V. Edwards, Asst. Secretary and Mr. Haynes, treasurer. The Association with its energetic officers have already accomplished some worthwhile objectives. Through their instrumentality the underneath of the school building has been filled in with bauxite over-burden and this once use for domestic sciences and handcraft.

Through the Association the Reynolds Metals Co. also gave \$70. for an Empire Day treat for the school children. The drills and marches for the occasion were carried

on under the command of Corporal Haynes and Dr. J. W. Draper took the salute in the march-past. The address for this occasion was given by Mr. A. Belmonte, the Company's engineer. The treat was held in the Club Hall after which the children took part in an athletic program. The following day, Friday, was declared a Manager's Holiday and again the children and staff enjoyed the favours of the Company when they attended a free matinee show at which the motion picture "Frog-men" was screened.

The School enrolment has jumped to 163 with an average attendance of 140. The teaching staff now comprises Mr. K. Birbalsingh, Headteacher; Mr. Thomas Fredericks, Mr. Haman Yassim, Miss Valerie Edwards with Mrs. May O'Geer in charge of the Kindergarten.

ATONEMENT, Ebeni — Mr. Basil Budhu.

The boys of Atonement School met the boys of Mt. Hermon Lutheran School in a friendly game of cricket at Ebeni. It was a keenly contested game with the Mt. Hermon boys having all hopes of an easy victory, but, Atonement boys staged such a surprising "come - back" that they bowled the Mt. Hermonites all out in the second innings for twelve runs and gained the victory. The teams were all entertained by the parents of Atonement and were served with curried chicken, sandwiches, tea, bread, butter, ginger-beer and cakes. The music was kindly supplied by Mr. Jose D'Andrade. After the match Mr. Wallace Thom chartered a launch to take the Mt. Hermonites home and to them we say "Better Luck next Time"

The pupils of Atonement also had the unique experience of viewing the helicopter when it landed at Ebeni for soil survey. The Pilot, Mr. Meier photographed the entire school around the helicopter and a few children had the opportunity of even entering into it. Mr. Meier also explained to the children how the helicopter works. He has since sent us of a school in the U.S.A. and asked that the pupils write to the school.

Atonement Luther League held elections recently and the following officers were elected:—

Mr. Leonard Sampson, President; Miss Lorna Smith, Vice - President; Miss Eldica Bennett, Secretary; Mr. Winston Thom, Asst. Secretary; Miss Cherie Adolph, Treasurer; Miss Yvonne Taylor, Asst. Treasurer.

The Programme Committee has planned a well rounded programme and leaguers and visitors were treated to two very interesting debates last month.

A Visiting Committee has also been formed to bring new members and lapsed leaguers into the league. This Committee is functioning well, along with the Evangelism Committee of the Congregation.

On May 13th, Mrs. Susan Elizabeth Benon was received into full membership by rite of Confirmation. We wish her God's richest blessings.

GRACE DeVeld, — Catechist J. F. Munro. The ladies are hard at work in digging and fetching bricks for the much needed concrete walk. In a meeting with the District Commissioner everyone promised to give a specified number of days to the construction work in order that the project could be completed in six days.

Catechist Munro leads his men every Friday to secure logs for the stelling and bond. We appeal for more men to take part in this worthy project.

ST. PAUL, Maria Henrietta. Catechist C.J. Duggin. The Pastor received a real surprise, when, two weeks after speaking about a concrete walk for the compounds, he returned to find two huge piles of bricks. The work was sparked by Mr. Cyril W. Vandenburg and we thank him very sincerely for his enthusiasm. The ladies have completed the task of breaking the bricks and we now await the mason from New Amsterdam.

Mrs. Esther Vandenburg successfully underwent an operation in the New Amsterdam Hospital and is at present recuperating at home. Mrs. Clara Sauers is seriously ill and prayers are solicited on her behalf.

MT. HERMON, — St. Lust. Catechist C.C. Fredericks. The men of the Logging Society have already secured all their logs and now await the builder. Catechist Fredericks' went into the Kamantine and after holding a service with the men the logs were all brought out in one day.

The ladies have begun to assemble bricks for their proposed concrete walk.

After the Service a week ago thirty-five adults and children of the Upper Division at school accompanied the Pastor on this visit to Mt. Carmel, Ituni. Many of the children had not seen this part of the river before even though it is only about 35 miles away. Everyone enjoyed the trip.

Miss Kathleen Doreen Lambert was received into full membership by the rite of Confirmation.

REFORMATION, Kimba — Catechist K. Ramessar. Led by Mrs. Violet Boyle, the ladies are hard at work in the gathering of their bricks for the concrete walk. It is proposed that the walk will extend from the Church to the Catechist's house.

The men have almost complete the job of securing the logs for their stelling and bond and building operations will commence in another two weeks.

Mrs. Lydia Welker is very ill and prayers are asked on her behalf.

After an absence of several weeks on account of sickness Catechist Ramessar is back at his post. He has not returned alone but has brought his bride with him. We wish both of them many rich blessings.

St. Clement and St. Mark Catechist George Clarke. The Catechist's house is now complete and the Catechist and his family are happily installed. The blessing of the house was conducted by Catechist Clarke and Layreader Ebenezer Daphness. There were many guests present and Mr. Benn spoke on behalf of the Scots Church.

This new building enhances the compounds and assures everyone that a Catechist will always be in residence. We are very grateful to the Board of Foreign Missions for making this provision.

ST. CATHERINE, Fearn. Catechist D. Lambert. The new Catechist-teacher, Mr. D. Lambert was welcomed at the morning Service on June 10th. Mr. Nathaniel David spoke on behalf of the congregation and Mr. Lambert suitably replied.

THE LOWER COURANTYNE PARISH

PASTOR E. B. MEYER (Acting)

ST MICHAEL, Alness. On the 4th December a vestry was formed. The following persons were elected:—Mr. Thomas Tannasee, Secretary; Mrs. Iris Bactawar and Mr. Albert Kampta. They were installed on Christmas Day by Pastor E. B. Meyer. We trust and pray that with these efficient persons, St. Michael will go on to greater progress.

The Pastor urged that members along with the Catechist put forth all effort to regain lapsed members. As a result of this challenge, the Bagmandeen's, have been restored to full membership. The Luther League has been resuscitated through the inspiring leadership of Miss Zartman and is making good progress. They have had the honor of visits both from Miss Fague and Mr. C. Chu.

The new methods of teaching Sunday School have been introduced by Miss Zartman and the children have responded with greater enthusiasm.

Through the sewing class a good opportunity has arisen to present the gospel to the non-christian girls who attend. Miss Zartman's work with them is bound to bear fruit. May they be led to the knowledge of His Saving Grace.

ST. JOHN, Williamsburg.

The following persons were received at St. John Lutheran Church, Williamsburg through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:—Velma E. Fraser, Gladwin Veerasammy, Elwena U. Dey, Lily Jaimangal, Walter Murgan, Milton Murgan, Humphrey G. Durganah, Ruby M. Yhap, Harry A. Yhap.

Film Show—On Thursday, April 26, 1956 at 7.30 p.m. Pastor Meyer showed a sound film entitled "Life of Christ" at St. John, in the open yard. Despite the

hower of rain that fell midway during the picture, the large attendance, which was made up of Christians and non Christians waited patiently to see the completion of the eight reels. This illustrative evangelism film moved the people so much that they are praying for a repeat showing of the film.

Through this medium the congregation wish to thank Mr. Frank Soodoo and others for their help given on the occasion.

Death: It is indeed sad to record the passing of one of the oldest and most active members of St. John who was called to higher service with the Lord, on the 6th June, 1956 at 9.30 a.m.

The devotion and good-will of Mrs. Violet Beepat, who was affectionately known as "Auntie Sassy" will be long-lived in the memory of this Church. She left to mourn her loss six (6) children and twenty-three (23) grand children.

St. John congregation tenders its deep sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

ST. JAMES, Whim. Film Show — A sound film on the "Life of Christ" was shown in the open air at St. James on May 2, 1956. It was well attended by the inhabitants of the district. This film was requested again. Plans are going to be made to show same at an early date.

Birth: A fifth child was born to the Lalsingh's family. Mae, she was baptized on May 13, 1956.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW. The Catechist is conducting two services - 11.00 a.m. and 7.15 p.m. every Sunday. The night Services are well attended.

Miss Zartman, lady Missionary is now visiting this Sunday School. She teaches new songs, etc. The school appreciates her visits.

A Sewing Class is being conducted by Parish Worker Sarah Morrison every Wednesday evening. She has two helpers Surujdei Ricknauth and Basmattee Budhoo who teach around twenty girls.

ST. PETER, Fyrish. The attendance in church is increasing steadily, and lapsed members are gradually creeping into the fold again.

On Sunday, June 10th was a great day when Pastor Meyer had his first opportunity in the Lower Corentyne Parish to confirm the following: Miss Naomi Davids, Mrs. Lucy Bissoondial, Mrs. Samrajiah Seegobin and Miss Sunderdai Dhanraj.

The Vestry meets once per month, and plans are on foot for redecorating the building.

With the increasing attendance, the Superintendent Mr. Naul Rambarran decided to have additional teachers. An adult Sunday School Class will be started soon.

The children find much pleasure in the hand work.

THE NEW AMSTERDAM PARISH

PASTOR E. B. MEYER

Ebenezer "O Lord, how great are Thy works: and Thy thoughts are very deep. Psalm 92, verse 5.

Sunday School — In the January February issue of the Southern Cross, announcement was made of the new hour for Sunday School.

Quoting, the writer — "Let us all parents, pupils, teachers, co-operate and give the new Sunday School hour as fair a try as possible. Who can tell, maybe, we'll find it more convenient. Let us try" "A Venture In Faith" — Results —

STATISTICS

| 1956 March 4 | | One Week ago | | One Year ago | |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Attendance | Offerings | Attendance | Offerings | Attendance | Offerings |
| 259 | \$ 6.88 | 146 | \$ 3.10 | 245 | \$ 3.39 |
| 287 | 7.17 | 259 | 6.88 | 54 | 1.44 |
| 306 | 7.59 | 287 | 7.17 | 198 | 3.24 |
| 310 | 9.01 | 306 | 7.59 | 225 | 3.05 |
| 1162 | \$ 30.71 | 998 | \$ 24.74 | 722 | \$ 11.22 |

Easter 1956

314 \$ 34.65

194 \$ 15.99

Holy Week and Easter Services We are happy to report of good attendances during this season. We want to express our appreciation to the speakers for their very inspiring messages at the various services. Our prayers are that the joys and Blessedness of Easter might remain with us throughout the year. Easter Offerings 1956, \$ 191.78 — 1955 \$ 173.57

"Onward, ever onward" be our "Watchword"

"Praise to the Lord! who doth prosper
our work and defend us;
Surely His goodness and mercy here
daily attend us.
Ponder anew - what the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriend us!

Organ and Organist We are happy to report that repairs have been effected to some parts of the Organ. As from Easter Sunday, we were able to have music with our worship services. However, there is yet a great amount of repairs to be done to the Organ. We beg to remind the congregation of its pledge to raise the sum of \$1,800.00 to defray the expenses of repair. Amounts received to date \$5.00 from an individual, \$22.00 from a couple observing their 22nd Wedding Anniversary. Perhaps, some of us might like to make a "Thank you Gift" for reaching another milestone.

Consequent upon the resignation of Mr. Ernest Johnson we were fortunate to obtain the services of Mr. Moses Telford as organist. With his love for music, and as a good steward of the talent endowed to him, this young man should prove to be of invaluable help in the rebuilding of Ebenezer's Choir. We pray God's blessings upon him and his work.

Visitation Happy are we to write of the enthusiasm and zeal shown by the visitation committee. Visits were made on lapsed members and a few unchurched persons during the week of March 4-10 whilst we cannot report of 100% results, we can definitely report of some measure of success. But, above all, comes the JOY to witness for Christ. Another visitation is planned in the near future.

Luther League Convention It made us feel very happy to have Luther Leaguers from all parts of the colony assemble here at Ebenezer for their Thirteenth Annual Convention. The fellowship was fine. Many of our youngsters, here, cherish pleasant memories. We trust and pray that the delegates will share with their respective Leagues some of the rich experiences which came their way. Congratulations to Ebenezer's Leaguer's, who made their apportionment of \$ 200.00

THE WEST COAST BERBICE PARISH

PASTOR F. L. INGALLS

One week for each point is being given for a SPECIAL EVANGELISM WEEK. This began May 13th and will run through July 21st. Special cottage meetings are to be held in the homes of either members or perspectives strategically located in respective areas with a special rally either in the Church or open-air during the middle of the week.

RESURRECTION, During the week of May 13th the members turned in over forty-five names of perspectives and Non-Christians through visitation in No. 7-8 Village areas. Two cottage meetings were held at one time on Tuesday evening with attendance for both being around seventy persons (members and Non-Christians). On Wednesday evening the Church was packed to capacity for an evangelistic meeting in which a portion of the Life of Christ in film strips was shown. Because of projector troubles, the remaining portion was shown on Thursday night. Since then the Catechist and members have been having meetings in the homes of interested persons. It is planned that an instruction class will soon begin for those interested in accepting Christ.

GOOD SHEPHERD, The next week of May 20th, beginning on the Festival of Pentecost, found the members of Good Shepherd busy visiting from Cottontree into Blairmont Estate inviting persons to attend special services for the week. Here three cottage meetings were held on Tuesday with three teams of members leading devotional and evangelistic services, and again on Thursday, with excellent turn-outs in the various homes. On Wednesday night, Mr. Cyril S. Chu, Chairman of the Evangelism Committee spoke at a rally in the chapel. "Let your light so shine.... that men may see.....and glorify your God." Film strips on the Life of Christ were shown to a capacity crowd. Since then the members of the Council and catechist have been holding meetings in

Factory Square, Church Square, and 43—Singh Square, of the Blairmont Estate. At each of these points in the Estate an average of fifty people attend, eager to worship Christ. An instruction Class will begin. An application for a Church site and school site has been made to the management of the Estate, and has received favorable local consideration. The application has now been forwarded to Bookers' Estates in Georgetown for final approval. Pray that we will be successful and that our Sunday School work of long standing, and cottage meetings might be consolidated into definite Church work.

ADVENT The last week in May and our special evangelism witness for Christ moved into the Bushlot, Armadale Hope-town area. Because of heavy rains that week, the cottage meetings were not well attended. Yet the few who turned out were interested and a few prospective members have been added for an adult instruction Class. On Wednesday evening, in spite of heavy rain, the Chapel was packed to hear Pastor Meyer preach on Matthew 5: 13. A special series of sound films were shown on the Life of Christ, with brief challenges to accept and believe in Christ, and have salvation, the personal gift of love and forgiveness from God.

FAITH An open-air meeting in Woodley Park in the yard of one Mr. Shakoor who allowed us to use his deisel power plant was held with people from No. 10 village through Bath Settlement attending. The crowd was estimated to be around four hundred persons.

BETHLEHEM The week of June 10th and we moved across the Abary into the Upper East Coast preaching point. Cottage meetings were held on Tuesday and Wednesday nights in the homes of members with many non-members of the Christian Church in attendance. On Thursday night Mr. Josephus Bakker preached, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." A film strip series was shown on the "Life of Christ" inside the home of a member with the people sitting packed together to house capacity.

Next week we move to HOPE where our series of meetings will be preached in an effort to win more to membership in the Church and to acceptance of Christ as Saviour. Pastor Magalee will be the guest speaker.

From there to NAZARETH with Miss Wagner scheduled as guest speaker for our rally. AUGSBURG then follows with Dr. Parker to be the special speaker at our Rally in the Rice Development Scheme. Then on to CHRIST where Pastor Hansen will address the people of that area and lastly BETHANY, with Pastor Bowen helping us. Pray that the work begun may continue, and that through the efforts of member and workers individuals will be persuaded through the Holy Spirit to accept Christ.

Welcome to Mr. Josephus Bakker - to the parish for the summer months. Mr. Bakker, home from Puerto Rico, has been assigned to help and will work with our Luther Leagues and their programs.

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"Brotherhood" and "Order of St. John"

After a period of dormancy these two organizations have gotten off to a fine start again.

Newly elected officers are- "Brotherhood" C. S. Chu, President; E. Haynes, Vice President; S. Alonzo, Secretary; D. Sam, Treasurer.

Order of St. John, Joseph Madramotoo, President, P Asregado Vice President, Hector Chu, Secretary, L. Asregado Treasurer. Let our prayers ascend daily to Him on behalf of these soldiers of Christ.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

FOUR THINGS

Four things a man must learn to do
If he would make his record true:
To think without confusion clearly
To love his fellowmen sincerely;
To act from honest motives pure;
To trust in God and heaven securely.

SKELDON PARISH

REV. G. GORDON, PARKER PASTOR

NATIVITY, Crabwood Creek. — Joseph M. Ramlochan, Catechist. On March 11th a Committee on Evangelism and Stewardship was formed. Those elected were: Catechist Ramlochan (Chairman), Mrs. Iris Ramsuchit [Secretary], Mrs. Florence Henry, Mrs. Constance Goman, Mrs. Dolly Ramlochan and Mr. S. Williams. This committee will carry out a house to house visit in the district to enlist new followers for Christ.

During the period of Lent services were held on every Wednesday night. These services were well attended. Similar services were held every night during Holy Week and the messages were based on the History of the Passion. A three-hour Good Friday Service was held, beginning at 12:00 noon. At this service Catechist Ramlochan was assisted by laymembers who took part by giving short meditations.

At 5:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday a special service was held to mark the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. In spite of unfavorable weather the attendance was good. This was followed by a Communion service at 10:00 a.m. The preacher was our pastor, the Rev. G. Gordon Parker, Ph. D. who gave an inspiring message. Two children were baptized and five new members were received by confirmation. After the service the catechist bid farewell to Mrs. Gordon Parker and thanked her for her services as organist for the congregation.

This congregation is steadily forging ahead with its membership drive and is more and more conscious of God's help in spreading the Gospel. Cottage meetings are held every Monday night. They are sponsored and conducted by the Committee on Evangelism and Stewardship.

EMMANUEL Skeldon

Oscar Teekasingh, Catechist. The Easter services of this congregation were well attended and there was a fine spirit of reverence felt. Five babies were received in Holy Baptism.

ST. MATTHIAS, No. 68 Village

Catechist Edward Muchunfall. The special Communion service for this congregation was held on Palm Sunday. At that time five children were received by Baptism and three by transfer. There is a steady growth noticeable in this congregation. The Luther League is showing fine progress and sent a contribution to the Luther League Convention. The catechist is opening a Kindergarten School and it has the full support of the community.

ST. BARNABAS, Bengal — Catechist

Harry B. Rajabally. Catechist Rajabally came to this work during the Lenten season to relieve Catechist A.T. Williams who was transferred to the Buxton Parish. One of the first duties the new catechist had was that of welcoming Dr. Hermon Gilbert to the congregation and Parish. This work is the newest in the parish and perhaps the most difficult. We are happy to see the good will and earnestness with which the catechist is entering into it. He has a kindergarten school which gives him an opening contact with the children of the community.

Notes from Skeldon High School

The new classroom building is moving toward completion. The cornerstone was laid on March 11th by Dr. Gilbert. Plans are now under preparation for the laboratory unit for the school.

Mr. Rudolph Woo-Chung is carrying on as Acting Principal. He has received fine cooperation from the staff and excellent results from the pupils. Twenty-nine were presented for the College of Preceptors examination recently and twenty-three passed successfully. This was celebrated with a party for the students on April 13th.